



⑪ Publication number : 0 649 121 A3

⑫ **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

⑰ Application number : 94307596.0

⑤① Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup> : G07F 17/16, G06F 17/60,  
G06F 17/30

⑱ Date of filing : 17.10.94

③⑥ Priority : 15.10.93 US 137880

④③ Date of publication of application :  
19.04.95 Bulletin 95/16

⑧④ Designated Contracting States :  
AT BE CH DE ES FR GB IT LI NL SE

⑧⑧ Date of deferred publication of search report :  
09.08.95 Bulletin 95/32

⑦① Applicant : International Business Machines  
Corporation  
Old Orchard Road  
Armonk, N.Y. 10504 (US)

⑦② Inventor : Tsevdos, James T.  
2711 NE 57th Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308 (US)  
Inventor : Cook, Ross L.  
901 SW 36th Avenue  
Boynton Beach, Florida 33435 (US)  
Inventor : Ring, Nancy Lee  
6129 Town Colony Drive  
Boca Raton, Florida 33433 (US)

Inventor : Barnhill, Robert S.  
21218 St Andrews Blvd.,  
No. 10-405  
Boca Raton, Florida 33433 (US)  
Inventor : Hamblin, Glen E.  
9384 Gettysburg Road  
Boca Raton, Florida 33434 (US)  
Inventor : Milstead, Kenneth L.  
9927 Majestic Way  
Boynton Beach, Florida 33437 (US)  
Inventor : Kindell, Craig N.  
2014 SW 29th Court No. 2A  
Delray Beach, Florida 33445 (US)  
Inventor : Waefler, Susan Elizabeth  
5086 Madison Road  
Delray Beach, Florida, 33484 (US)  
Inventor : Portela, Carlos  
2659 SE 14th Street  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062 (US)  
Inventor : Anderson, Brent C.  
14232 Marsh Lane  
Dallas, Texas 75244 (US)

⑦④ Representative : Burt, Roger James, Dr.  
IBM United Kingdom Limited  
Intellectual Property Department  
Hursley Park  
Winchester Hampshire SO21 2JN (GB)

⑤④ Digital information accessing, delivery, and reproduction.

⑤⑦ A digital data on-demand turnkey system at a customer premise wherein N number of servers provide for 100% of content distribution of remotely stored digitized information, which information may be previewed in real-time, and product incorporating selected digitized information can be manufactured on-site and within a short response time to a customer's request at a point of sale location. In a retail environment customers, at a point-of-sale location are able to exhaustively search and preview the content database using graphics-based touch screens at consumer kiosks. Previews including audio and video segments are made available. Prompting screens allow customers to make purchasing decisions by stipulating content which is available from any number of categories of subject matter including music. Content can be identified by album, artist or partial portions of material within the content of the totality of the work. The selected media for the manufacture and production of the digital data may be from a myriad of different selections and can include CD's, cassette tapes, CD

ROM technology, reel-to-reel tapes, and video disks, as an example. Since the system is adaptable to having an unlimited number of servers, strategic and economic networking is accomplished to allocate proportionally the preview material as well as the total content of a specific work at the respective servers depending, in particular, on the popularity of the content and the costs of transmission. A master server will be situated geographically so as to be accessible to chain and network subservers. Its geographic and networked location is dependent upon communication network systems and subsystem costs and availability in order to best serve a customer's premise, whether it be a retail store or similar point-of-sale or other end-user location. The strategy of allocating the content between the servers, preview and for the final manufacturing process for a particular work, is done so as to eliminate the need for any in-store inventory of, for example, an artist's composition regardless of format. Security mechanisms that require centralized database

EP 0 649 121 A3

authorizations prior to the transmission of content and/or the manufacture of any of the products is provided in addition. The systems provides simplified financial and accounting services. The total authorization, accounting and management reporting and marketing system collects and maintains data useful to the retailer and the content data owners or managers, such as label companies.

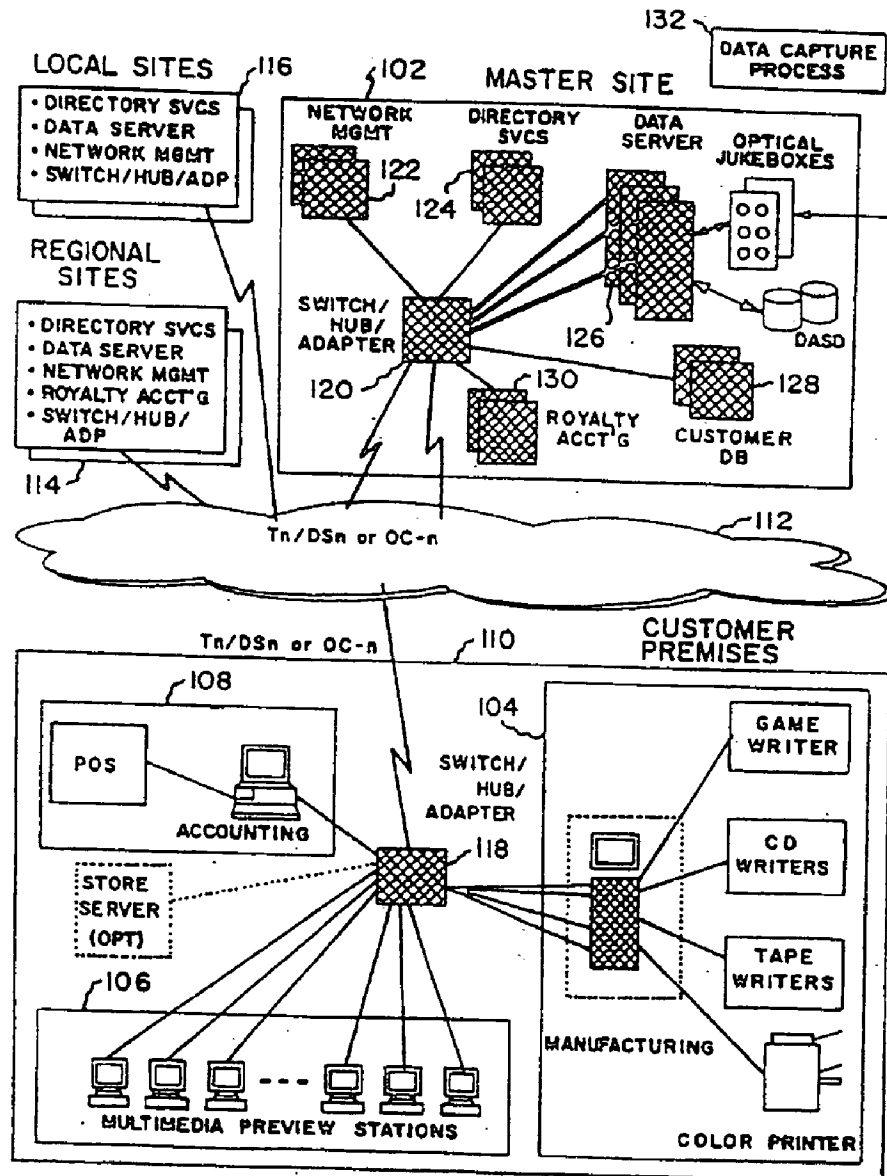


FIG. 1

EP 0 649 121 A3

European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 94 30 7596

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 6)
1 X	EP-A-0 195 098 (FPDC INC.) 24 September 1986 * page 1, line 1 - page 6, line 31; claims	1-11, 13	G07F17/16 G06F17/60 G06F17/30
Y	---	14-16	
3 A	IEEE COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE, vol. 26, no. 6, June 1988 NEW YORK, NY USA, pages 27-44, J. IRVEN ET AL : 'Multi-Media Information Services: A Laboratory Study' * page 32, column 2, line 11 - page 33, column 1, line 40; figures 1,2 *	1-11, 13	
1 A	US-A-4 787 050 (T. SUZUKI) 22 November 1988 * the whole document *	1,4	
A	* figure 4A *	14-16	
1 A	US-A-5 237 157 (J. KAPLAN) 17 August 1993 * the whole document *	1,4, 11	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 6)
Y	---	14-16	G06F G07F
2 A	EP-A-0 564 736 (HALLMARK CARDS) 13 October 1993 * page 3, line 41 - line 44; claims 1,2,8,12,14 *	1-11, 13	
Y	---	14-16	
2 A	WO-A-92 02888 (ROSS HARVEY M) 20 February 1992 * the whole document *	1-11, 13-16	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>14 June 1995</b>	Examiner <b>Fournier, C</b>
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-critical disclosure P : intermediate document  Y : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons  & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			